

§ 410.685

that he has such authority, shall be accepted as evidence of the attorney's authority to represent a party.

§ 410.685 Qualifications of representative.

(a) *Attorney.* Any attorney in good standing who (1) is admitted to practice before a court of a State, territory, district or insular possession or before the Supreme Court of the United States or an inferior Federal court, (2) has not been disqualified or suspended from acting as a representative in proceedings before the Social Security Administration, and (3) is not, pursuant to any provision of law, otherwise prohibited from acting as a representative, may be appointed as a representative in accordance with § 410.684.

(b) *Person other than attorney.* Any person (other than an attorney described in paragraph (a) of this section) who (1) is of good character, in good repute, and has the necessary qualifications to enable him to render valuable assistance to an individual in connection with his claim, (2) has not been disqualified or suspended from acting as a representative in proceedings before the Social Security Administration, and (3) is not, pursuant to any provision of law, otherwise prohibited from acting as a representative, may be appointed as a representative in accordance with § 410.684.

[36 FR 23760, Dec. 14, 1971, as amended at 37 FR 17707, Aug. 30, 1972]

§ 410.686 Authority of representative.

A representative, appointed and qualified as provided in §§ 410.684 and 410.685, may make or give, on behalf of the party he represents, any request or notice relative to any proceeding before the Administration under part B of title IV of the Act, including reconsideration, hearing and review, except that such representative may not execute a claim for benefits, unless he is a person designated in § 410.222 as authorized to execute a claim. A representative shall be entitled to present or elicit evidence and allegations as to facts and law in any proceeding affecting the party he represents and to obtain information with respect to the claim of such party to the same extent as such party. Notice to any party of any ad-

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ministrative action, determination, or decision, or request to any party for the production of evidence may be sent to the representative of such party, and such notice or request shall have the same force and effect as if it had been sent to the party represented. (For fees to representatives for services performed before the Administration for an individual, see § 410.686b.)

[37 FR 20654, Sept. 30, 1972]

§ 410.686a Proceedings before a State or Federal court.

(a) *Representation of claimant in court proceeding.* Any service rendered by any representative in any proceeding before any State or Federal court shall not be considered services in any proceeding before the Social Security Administration for purposes of §§ 410.686 and 410.686b. However, if the representative has also rendered services in connection with the claim in any proceeding before the Administration, as defined in § 410.686e, he must specify what, if any, amount of the fee he desires to charge is for services performed before the Administration, and if he charges any fee for such services, he must file the petition and furnish all of the information required by § 410.686c(a).

(b) *Attorney fee allowed by a Federal court.* In any case where a Federal court in any proceeding under part B of title IV of the Act renders a judgment favorable to a claimant who was represented before the court by an attorney, and the court, pursuant to section 206(b) of the Social Security Act, allows to the attorney as part of its judgment a fee not in excess of 25 percent of the total of past-due benefits to which the claimant is entitled by reason of the judgment, the Administration may certify the amount of such fee for payment to such attorney out of, but not in addition to, the amount of the past-due benefits payable (see § 410.686d(a)). No other fee may be certified for direct payment to such attorney for such representation.

(c) *Past-due benefits defined.* The term *past-due benefits* as used in paragraph (b) of this section means the total accumulated amount of benefits payable under part B of title IV of the Act by reason of the court's judgment through the month prior to the month of the